



COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO
STANDARD PRACTICE

NO 13-2.10

ISSUE

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DEPARTMENT MENTAL HEALTH

SUBJECT

DESTROYING UNKNOWN OR ILLEGAL DRUGS

APPROVED

James McReynolds

JAMES MCREYNOLDS, Director

I. PURPOSE

To establish a policy for destroying unknown or illegal drugs.

II. PROCEDURE

- A. The physician has the responsibility to order unknown or illegal drugs destroyed.
- B. The physician shall write an order in the client's chart to destroy the unknown or illegal drug.
- C. Nursing staff or physician will destroy the drug by flushing the substance down the toilet. Please note: A witness must be present.
- D. An Interdisciplinary Note must be made in the client's chart that the drug(s) were destroyed and signed by the person who destroyed the drug and the person who witnessed.
- E. In cases where identification of the drug may be beneficial; the specimen will be sent to the CMC Pharmacy for analysis after proper arrangement has been made.

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